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PRESS RELEASE

Residents advised of possible power outages during electrical conversion project

The City of Newton has contracted with Williams Electric Company to start converting its 4 kv system over to 24 kv, according to Doug Wesson, Assistant Director of Public Works and Utilities for Newton. The first phase of construction will start on April 17, 2006, and is expected to take approximately 120 days to complete.

Wesson said that areas of construction will include: North College Avenue from 20th Street to 22nd Avenue, North Main Street from 20th Street to 24th Street including all side streets, West 4th Street from Deal Street to North Ashe Avenue, West C Street from Westside Boulevard to Ashe Street, Hwy 321 south of West J Street to Southside Park including the Pinehurst, North Gate, and Brentwood areas.

During this time, residents may be without power up to four (4) hours at a time, according to Wesson. He advises residents who have concerns or medical conditions that would require immediate attention to a power outage to contact Public Works as soon as possible to ensure a minimal power outage.

"Our goal is to keep reliable and cost-effective power to our customers and we are sorry for any convenience this may cause," Wesson stated.

For more information, contact the Newton Public Works and Utilities Department at 828-695-4310.